

The New Nation

Part Three



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

Icons



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page

For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.





Although the government laid down by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights was innovative, many felt that it would not last.



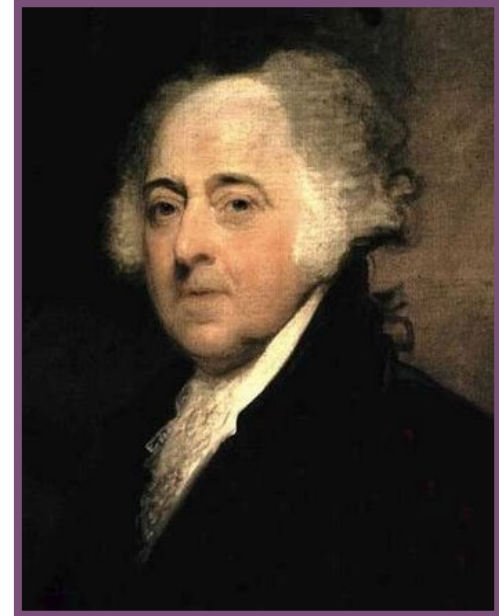
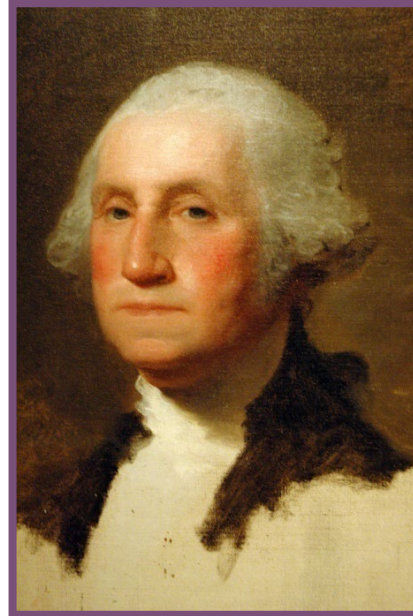
The Constitution had gone further than the Articles of Confederation to set the structure of government. However, it did not provide a comprehensive plan for the Founding Fathers to follow. Many decisions still had to be made and the unity of the nation remained questionable.



After the ratification of the Constitution in 1788, the first presidential and congressional elections took place.

In the meeting of the first Congress, 69 chosen electors were given two votes.

The candidate who received the most votes would become president and the runner-up would become vice president.



George Washington was elected president with John Adams being elected vice president.





The Constitution made it clear that the **Supreme Court** would head the judicial branch of government.

Congress passed the **Judiciary Act of 1789** to bring this court into being.

The judicial branch helped clarify how Congress's laws were to be applied, and reviewed them to see if they were constitutional.



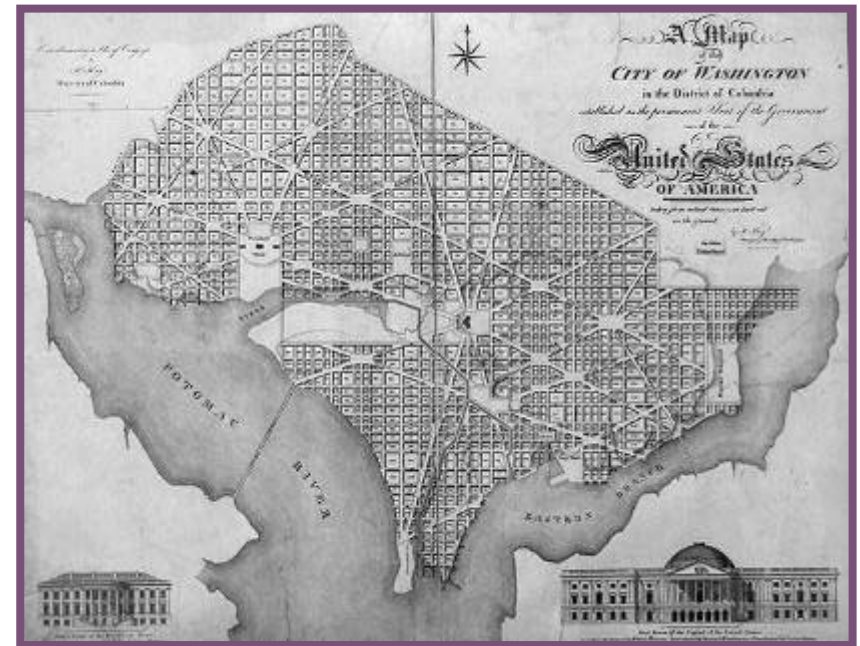
Why was the Supreme Court so important?



President Washington made Alexander Hamilton the Secretary of the Treasury in 1789.

Hamilton was in charge of improving the nation's economy. Some of his policies included:

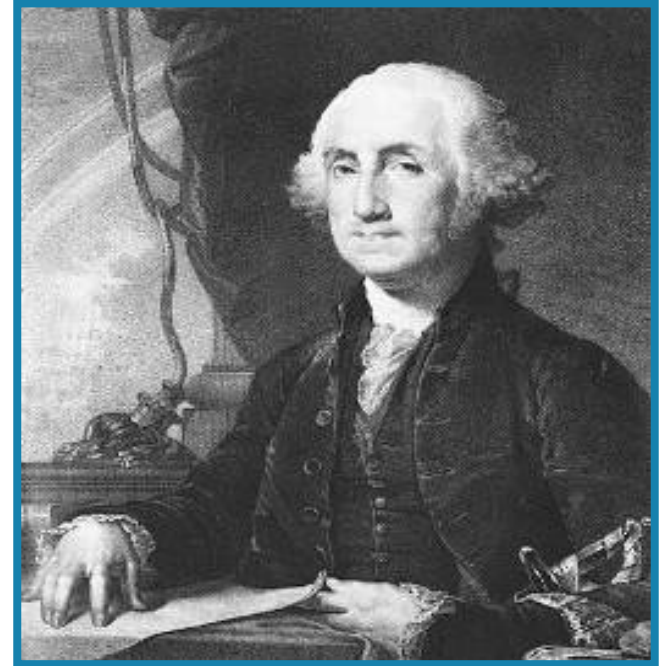
- government assuming the debts of individual states
- creating a national bank
- founding a new national capital in Washington, DC
- creating an **excise tax** on the manufacture of whiskey.





Hamilton had constant disagreements with Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson.

Although Washington tried to remain above these divisions, members of the government split into two parties.



These parties became known as the **Federalist** and **Democratic-Republican** parties.

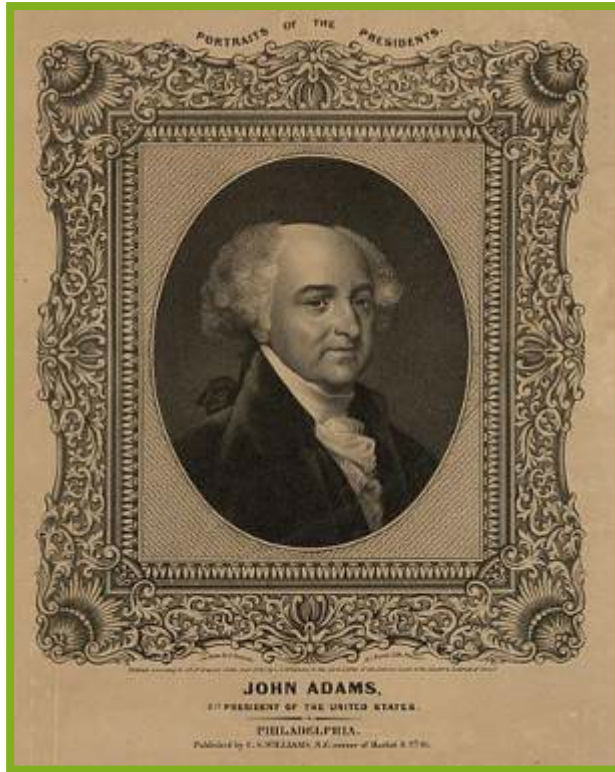
Why did President Washington try to prevent party politics?





The rise of party politics

Party politics became increasingly important after Washington's retirement following the election of 1796.



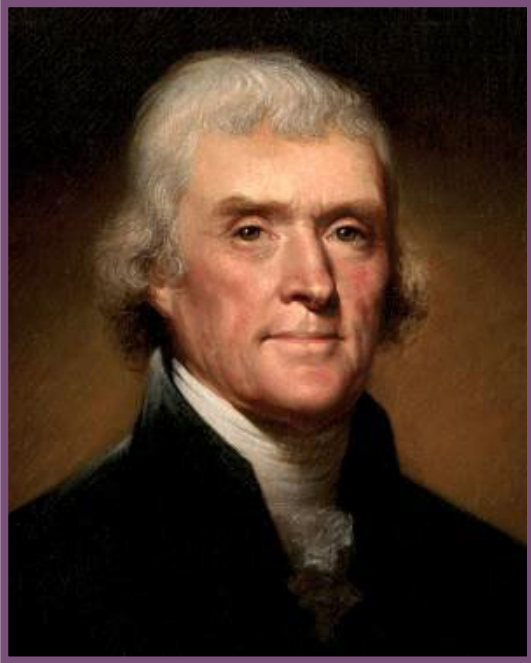
In that election, the Federalist John Adams ran against Thomas Jefferson, a Democratic-Republican. Adams won and Jefferson became vice president.

In the 1800 election, Jefferson and Aaron Burr tied. The House of Representatives elected Jefferson as president.





Jefferson governed differently to Washington and Adams.



During his two terms in office, Jefferson:

- reduced military spending
- reduced the power of the national bank
- stopped all internal taxes.

During his presidency, Jefferson organized the **Louisiana Purchase** where the U.S. bought the land west of the Mississippi from France.





Changes in territory



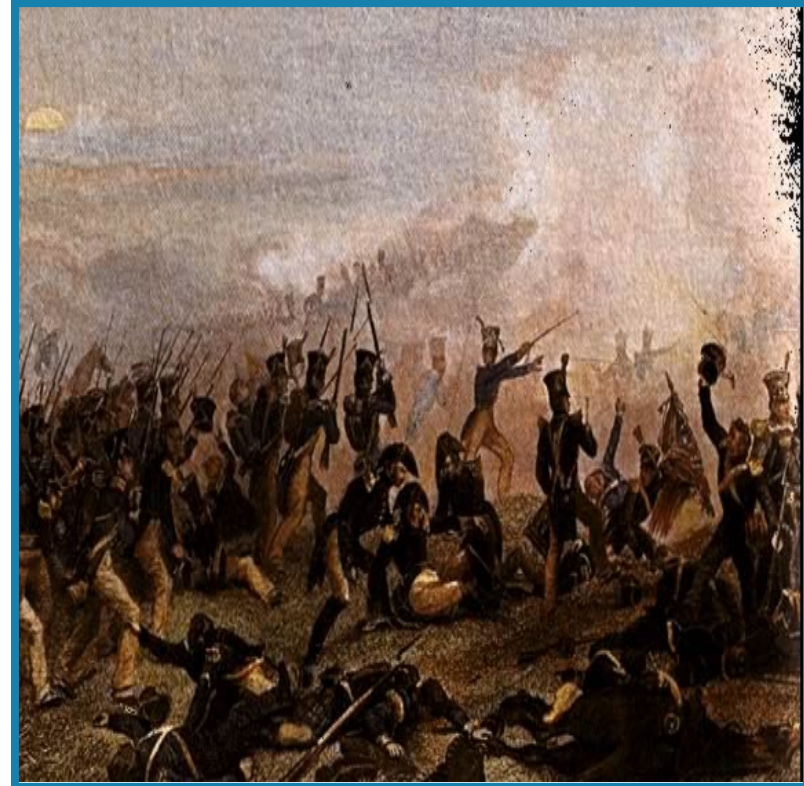
Reaction to the French Revolution





In 1812, American forces attacked Canada but were defeated in several battles by allied British and Native American forces.

Over two years more battles were fought but neither side was completely successful, even with British forces capturing Washington D.C.



On December 24, 1814, a peace agreement – the **Treaty of Ghent** – was signed. However, at the end of the war, a large British force was defeated which raised the morale of the American public.



Effects on society



Key figures



What was the first document outlining the new national government?

The Declaration of Independence Articles of Confederation ✓

Who was the first U.S Secretary of State?

George Washington Thomas Jefferson ✓ John Adams

What are the first amendments to the constitution called?

The Bill of Rights ✓ The Civil Rights Act The Quartering Act

What were the first U.S political parties called?

Liberals/Conservatives Republicans/Democrats

Federalists/Anti-Federalists ✓



